

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Kindly replace the first paragraph on page 2 of the specification to:

This application discloses subject matter related to the subject matter disclosed in the following co-assigned patent applications: (i) "System and Method for Planning Multiple MUX Levels in a Fiber Optic Network Simulation Plan," filed December 22, 1999, Ser. No. 09/469,691 (~~Attorney Docket Number 1275-0004; RIC-99-072~~), in the names of: Kristen L. Watkins and Nandagopal Venugopal, and issued on November 25, 2003 as U.S. Patent No. 6,654,354; and (ii) "System and Method for Time Slot Assignment in a Fiber Optic Network Simulation Plan," filed December 22, 1999, Ser. No. 09/470,666 (~~Attorney Docket Number 1275-0005; RIC-99-073~~), in the names of: Kristen L. Watkins and Nandagopal Venugopal.